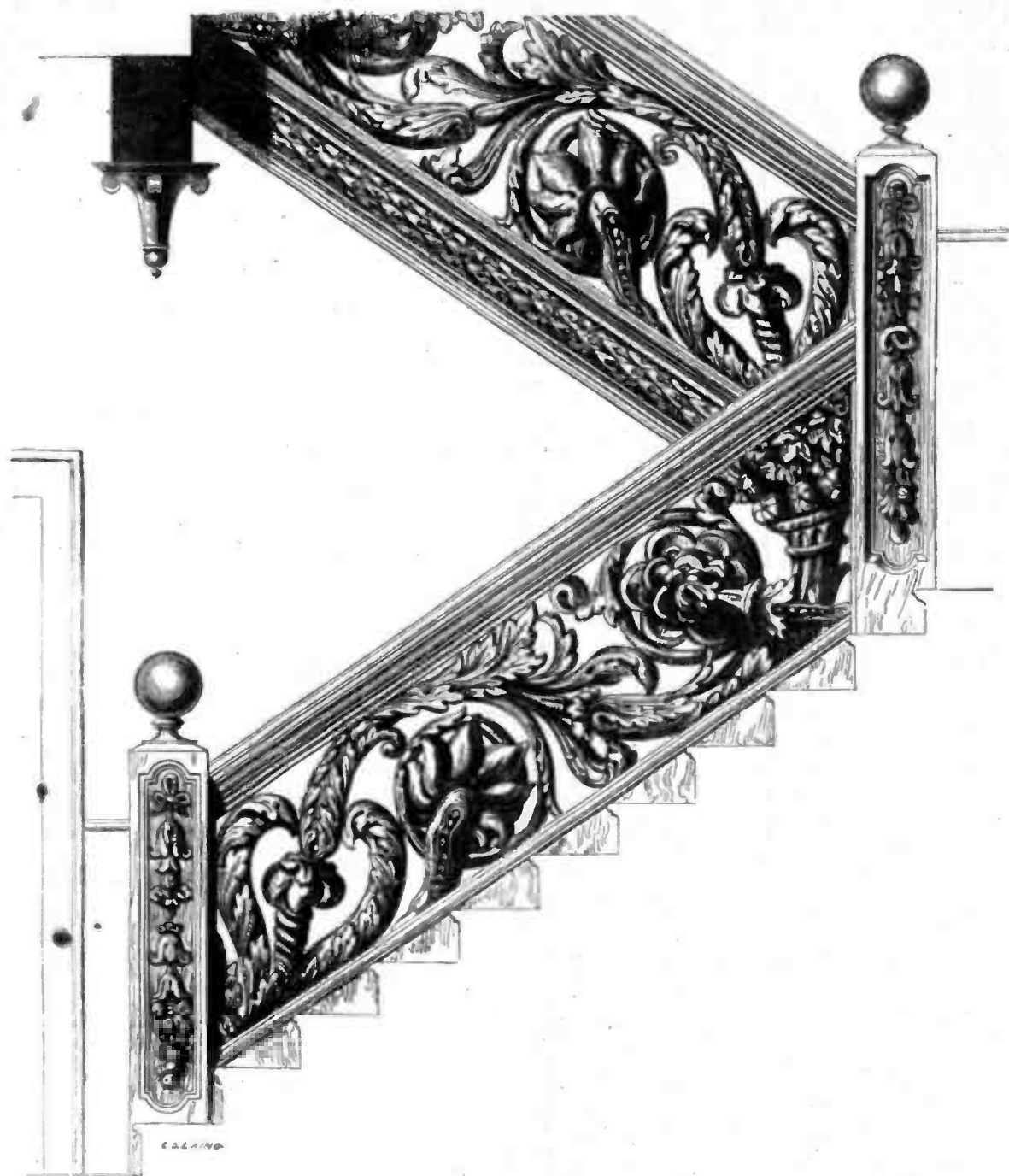


ANCIENT STAIRCASE BY INIGO JONES,  
IN CHANDOS-STREET, WESTMINSTER.



TO THE EDITOR OF THE BUILDER.

SIR,—I beg to send you a sketch of one of those numerous relics still remaining in London (and which are so little known or appreciated) of the talents of Inigo Jones as an architect and artist. The subject is a portion of a staircase still remaining in the house of Mr. Diller, writing-desk and dressing-case manufacturer, No. 5, Chandos-street, Westminster.

The width of the staircase is rather small; there are four flights, commencing at the first floor, ornamented with this beautiful carved work; there can be little doubt that the first two flights had balustrading of a similar description, but, if so, it has been removed many

years. The sketch is a copy reduced from a drawing, exhibited by the late Sir John Soane, R.A., in one of his lectures at the Royal Academy, who, speaking of the subject, thus alludes to the architect:—

"Inigo Jones, whose superior knowledge in architecture I have often had the pleasure of noticing in these lectures, was particularly happy in his staircases, both as to convenience and artist-like effect, even when confined to very small spaces. How superior is the decoration in these staircases" (two drawings of this staircase and one of the staircase at Amesbury, in Wilts., were exhibited) "to what we are accustomed to see in modern

houses of a similar class;—what comparative magnificence in the former, what poverty and meanness in the latter! Whatever we have gained in lightness and effect we have lost more in importance and character."

As soon as leisure permits, I will send you a sketch of the Amesbury example.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

C. J. RICHARDSON.

22, Brompton-crescent.

P. S. Might not the house in Chandos-street have been the residence of Inigo? It is not far from St. Martin's-lane, where Horace Walpole states he resided.

MONUMENT TO THE EARL OF LEICESTER.

THE following is a description of the monument which has been erected in Longford Church to the memory of the late Earl of Leicester:—

The stone for the monument has been pro-

cured from the borders of Yorkshire, and is a fine magnesian limestone of a light cream colour.

The plan is a rectangular niche, slightly recessed in the wall, and projecting therefrom about one foot. It is fixed on a plain solid base, three feet high. The opening of the

niche in front is about nine feet high and four feet three inches wide, and is flanked by shafted jambs, having floral capitals, with the ball-flower in the hollow between the shafts, and the outer angles of the monument are strengthened by double buttresses, tabled in three stages. From the capital of